Message Text

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SUBJECT: MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS FOR GDR JOURNALISTS ASSIGNED TO THE US

REF: A.) STATE 215922 B.) BERLIN 6182

1. GDR EMBASSY HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT GDR HAS RECENTLY ACCREDITED FLORA LEWIS, NEW YORK TIMES CORRESPONDENT, RESIDENT IN PARIS AND UPI CORRESPONDENT JOEL FLEMING, WHO IS PERMANENTLY STATIONED IN VIENNA. WE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNDERSTAND THAT AP IS PRESENTLY DISCUSSING THE POSSIBLE

ACCREDITATION OF ITS COPENHAGEN CORRESPONDENT, GEORGE BOLTWOOD (WHO IS UK CITIZEN), TO THE GDR. NONE OF THE ABOVE WOULD RESIDE IN THE GDR BUT WOULD TRAVEL THERE FROM TIME TO TIME. ACCORDING TO THE GDR EMBASSY, MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS VALID FOR ONE YEAR HAVE ALREADY BEEN ISSUED TO NEW YORK TIMES AND UPI REPRESENTATIVES AND AP REPRESENTATIVE WILL RECEIVE THE SAME UPON ACCREDITATION.

2. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO VERIFY WITH MFA THAT ABOVE INFORMATION IS CORRECT. IF SO, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT

SUFFICIENT GROUNDS NOW EXIST TO EXTEND RECIPROCAL PRIVILEGES TO GDR CORRESPONDENTS STATIONED IN THE US. (GDR EMBASSY HAS RAISED THIS ISSUE IN CONNECTION WITH SINGLE-ENTRY VISA STATUS OF HORST KAEUBLER, GDR TELEVISION REPORTER ASSIGNED TO WASHINGTON.) THEREFORE, EMBASSY MAY ISSUE MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISAS OF ONE YEAR VALIDITY TO GDR CORRESPONDENTS WHO WILL BE PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED TO THE US, UPON RECEIVING CONFIRMATION FROM MFA THAT US JOURNALISTS NOW ACCREDITED AND HAVE RECEIVED MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS. AT THE SAME TIME, EMBASSY REQUESTED TO INFORM MFA OF NEW VISA POLICY FOR JOURNALISTS. DEPARTMENT WILL INFORM GDR EMBASSY.

- 3. VO WILL AMEND APPENDIX C OF VISA MANUAL TO CONFORM WITH THE ABOVE.
- 4. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT PLAN TO EXCHANGE OF NOTES WITH GDR REGARDING JOURNALISTS' VISAS, BUT WILL SIMPLY INSTITUTE NEW PROCEDURE. KISSINGER

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